



National Accreditation

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The Joint Commission



National Accreditation

- Accreditation requirements
- Help/support/resources
- Surveyors
- Fees
- Reputation
- References
- Regulatory Relief
- Accreditation Cycle

The Joint Commission

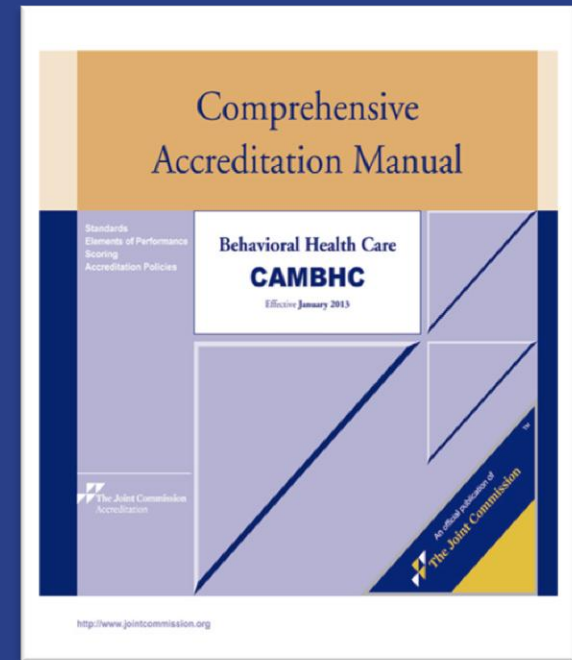
- Ambulatory Health Care
- **Behavioral Health Care**
- Critical Access Hospital
- Home Care
- Hospital
- Laboratory Services
- Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Accredited over 20,000 health care organizations



The Joint Commission

Behavioral Health Care

- Accrediting agencies providing care, treatment or services to children/youth/families since 1969
- **Over 2000 accredited agencies**
- **Over 50 % not-for-profit agencies**



The Joint Commission

Behavioral Health Care Accreditation

- Accredited agencies range from very small, single service/program/site agency to several services/programs to many services/programs/sites





Value and Benefits of Accreditation:

- Demonstrates the agency's commitment to quality and safety
- Provides a management outline for leadership
- Supports a culture of excellence
- Integrates data use into daily operations



Value and Benefits of Accreditation:

- Recognition by the health care community
- Required by many 3rd party payers (private insurances and Medicaid)
- Supports board members in meeting their fiduciary responsibilities
- Allows for targeted use of state resources
- May reduce liability insurance premiums



Value and Benefits of Accreditation

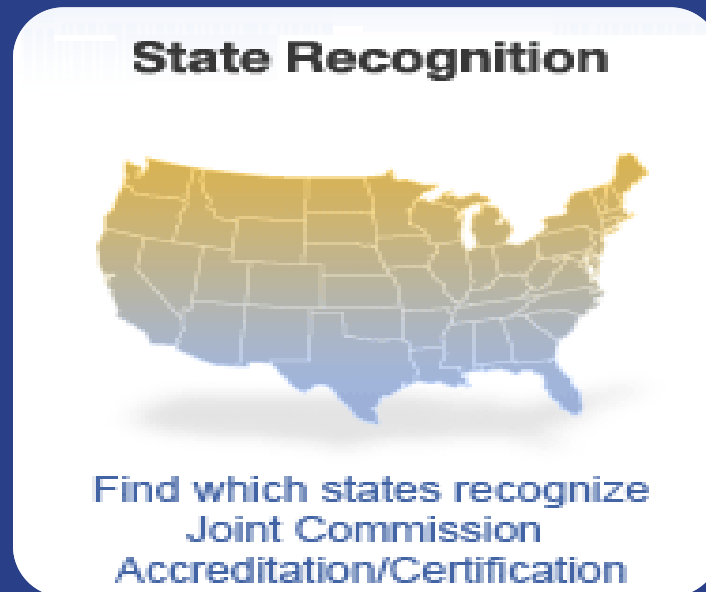
The Joint Commission accreditation is the best way of ensuring quality care and that we achieve our mission. In addition to providing premiere care, accreditation allows us to contract with managed care providers which in turn helps us diversify funding streams. Holding ourselves to a higher standard ensures we are constantly evolving, improving and growing.

Tammy Wilson, LMFT, CEO

Oak Grove Center for Education,
Treatment and the Arts, CA

State Recognitions

- 189 distinct administrative agencies within 49 states and the District of Columbia
- www.jointcommission.org/BHCS





State Recognition & Reliance

The acceptance of, requirement for, or other references to the use of Joint Commission accreditation, in whole or in part, by one or more governmental agencies in exercising regulatory authority.



Developing State “Recognition”

- States adopt statutes and regulations that enable state agencies to use accreditation as a basis for making licensure decisions – forgoing the need to conduct a routine on-site inspection
- Similar to federal deemed status (hospital, critical access hospital, hospice, home health, lab, ambulatory surgical center)
- Similar to SAMHSA / CSAT requirement for Methadone Maintenance / Detox programs



Value of State Recognition

- Independent external review
- Contemporary standards – constantly updated by experts in the field
- Allows state agencies the ability to direct limited resources toward critical activities (new applicants, complaints, adverse events)
- Reduction in the number of inspections per year – eliminate redundancy
- Increased communication between all parties



State Relations Communications

- Serve as liaison state regulatory agencies:
 - Provide general information on accreditation status
 - Notify state agencies of all adverse accreditation decisions via email
 - Call state agencies directly whenever the Joint Commission declares an Immediate Threat to Health and/or Safety
- Visit state agencies and provider associations to provide education regarding new Joint Commission standards

Programs / Services Accredited

- Addictions services
- Case management agencies
- **Child Welfare Agencies**
- **Juvenile Justice**
- Corrections
- Crisis stabilization
- Day programs
- Eating disorders treatment programs
- **Family preservation/wraparound**
- Forensics services
- **Foster care**
- **In-home/community support**
- Medication Assisted Opioid treatment
- **Outdoor programs**
- Outpatient programs
- **Primary Physical Health Care**
- **Prevention services**
- **Residential/group homes**
- Technology-based services
- **Therapeutic day schools**
- **Therapeutic foster care**
- **Transitional/Supervised living**
- **24-hour therapeutic schools**
- Vocational rehabilitation

What is Accreditation?

- Accreditation is the process of inviting outside experts to conduct a review of an agency to validate and/or improve the safety and quality of care, treatment or services



Surveyors

- Experienced behavioral health care professionals
- Trained, mentored, and monitored to deliver consistently valuable surveys
- Sensitivity training for diversity (e.g. Cultural, Gender Preferences)
- Licensed Clinicians
- Diverse Cadre
 - Experience
 - Cultures/Ethnicity
 - Geography



Surveyors

- Each surveyor surveys an average of 15 times per year
- Average length of service is 11 years
- Surveying is a skill set that needs to be exercised
- Sharing good practices
- Helping agencies in their commitment to provide safe And high quality care, treatment & services



On-site Surveys

- ▶ Shortest survey is one surveyor for two days
- ▶ Surveys can be multiple surveyors for multiple days
- ▶ Tracer Methodology



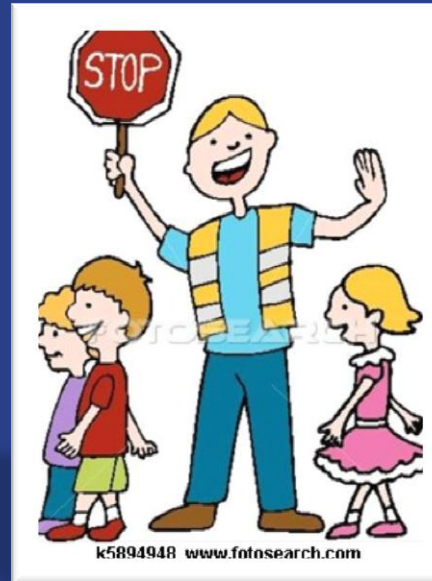
“The Balancing Act”

Evaluator and Educator
Consultant



Accreditation Requirements

Guidance for Good Practices



*Based on trauma informed
and resilience concepts*





What do our accredited organizations say?

“Our organization chose The Joint Commission because it helps us learn about best practices from other organizations, and it helps us establish protocols in development of our own best practices.”

Denise Dunn

Standards and Compliance Manager

Hazelton, Center City MN



Fees

- Based on programs/services provided, volume, and number of physical locations of care, treatment or services
- Covers all accreditation costs
- Spread out for the accreditation cycle
- Small agencies' fees are less than medium agencies that are less than large agencies



What do our accredited organizations say?

“Joint Commission accreditation has been worth the money. You get what you pay for. They have a lot of good resources. And they have been very user-friendly, more so than other organizations I’ve worked with.”

Gina Palmer

Compliance Coordinator

Magnolia Creek Treatment Center for Eating Disorders



What do our accredited organizations say?

“Joint Commission behavioral health care accreditation has opened doors to insurance reimbursement, State Board of Education reimbursement, Medicaid reimbursement, and it has given us respect within the teen treatment industry. The benefits have been far-reaching and immeasurable.”

Dustin Tibbitts, L.M.F.T.

Executive Director

InnerChange New Haven, Provo UT

The Path to Accreditation

Support

- Exploration
- Application
- On-site Survey
- Maintaining accreditation

Education

- Distant and In person
- Individual



Path to Accreditation

- ▶ “Mentor” agency support





What do our accredited organizations say?

“The Joint Commission's accreditation process is unmatched in the industry. The support they give us is just unparalleled, whether it's over the phone, on the website, or the tools they provide us.”

David Fetterman

Quality Improvement/Compliance Manager

New Vitae Mental Health Center, Quakertown PA



What do our accredited organizations say?

“We find that The Joint Commission provides state of the art guidance. And it helps our organization maintain state of the art treatment for our consumers.”

Patricia Novak

Director of Quality Improvement

Adult and Child Community Mental Health Center, Indianapolis IN

National Accreditation

National accreditation means an agency has reached for and achieved the highest level of performance recognition available in the behavioral health field.





National Accreditation

Bad things can happen even in accredited agencies but accreditation builds into the agency's daily operations risk management systems to mitigate risk:

1. Clinical outcomes
2. Performance Improvement
3. Agency-wide safety program
4. Blame-free reporting systems
5. Sentinel Events (Root Cause Analysis)
6. Emergency Preparedness



Behavioral Health Care Accreditation Team

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Questions ?

